



ASA Bill Signing SB1186 Common Course Numbering

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

Thank you, Elma, and good morning everyone!

Back in January of last year, I told the Regents that we should pursue common sense ideas wherever possible – ideas like “common course numbering.”

As Elma said, I thought English 101 should MEAN English 101 -- on every campus.

Senate Bill 1186 passed unanimously in both the Senate and the House – and, it passed unanimously because of the incredible work done by you – the students.

Like all good students, you did your homework.

You studied, you researched, and you mastered the issue.

Your testimony was compelling.

It resonated with me because I had been hearing the same stories from students about problems with course transfers since I was a legislator – 25 years ago!

To be fair, our universities and community colleges have made great improvements -- and most advisors do a great job in guiding their students.

But, I think the problem is that not every student finds the right website -- or even sees an advisor.

And, if you'll recall, I also told the Regents that I don't believe there is any one magical cure to our problems in higher education.

But, in these critical financial times, and especially when student success is more important than ever, we must continue to make sure that every opportunity is pursued.

And that's really what this is all about and why the higher education reforms we are discussing are so important – what can we do to help you graduate – what can we do to simplify the process so you can focus on your studies.

The process of developing this system will not be easy and it may take some time, but today I wanted to congratulate you and Senator Huppenthal for a job well done.

So, now, it is my honor to sign into law the fruits of your hard work. Thank you and God bless you.